(a) whether the laws governing General Court Matrials (GCM) in the Army have been termed as archaic by the Supreme Court recently;

(b) if so, the response of the Ministry in this regard;

(c) whether his Ministry Would like to amend some objectionable and most critical provisions of the laws related to GCM; and

(d) if so, the details of the amendment being contemplated?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) Honourable Supreme Court of India in the case of "Union of India and another versus Charanjit S. Gill and others" *inter alia* observed, "Even today the law relating to Armed Forces remains static which requires to be changed keeping in view the observations made by this Court in Prithi Pal Singh Bedi's case (*supra*), the constitutional mandate and the changes effected by other democratic countries." The Law Commission of India in its report on amendment of Army, Navy and Air Force Acts, has taken into account the observations of the court in the case of "Lt Col Prithi Pal Singh Bedi *versus* Union of India and others" and recommended setting up of separate Tribunal(s) for the Armed Forces. On consideration of these recommendations, Government have decided in principal to set up an Armed Forces Tribunal for hearing of appeals against orders in cases of Court Martial as also for adjudication of service matters of Armed Forces personnel. The proposed tribunal will have powers to decide questions of both law and facts that may be raised before it. Necessary legislative proposals are under consideration of the Government.

Power Generation Capacity

727. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the existing installed power generation capacity in the country till date, State and Union Territory-wise;

(b) the average plant load factor of power plants in each State;

(c) the expected additional power generation capacity after the approval of new pending projects alongwith the estimated requirment of electricity in each State; and

(d) the per capita availability of power in each State?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) A Statement showing the status (as on 31.3.2000) of the existing installed power generation capacity in the country, State-wise and Union Territory-wise is given in Annexure. [*See* Appendix 189, Annexure No. 128]

(b) A Statement showing the average Plant Load Factor (PLF) of power plants in each State for 1999-2000 is given in Annexure. [*See* Appendix 189, Annexure No. 128]

(c) The likely capacity addition in respect of pending projects including schemes approved/under construction State-wise, is given in Annexure. [*See* Appendix 189, Annexure No. 128] The estimated requirement of electricity in each State for 2000-2001 is given in Annexure. [*See* Appendix 189, Annexure No. 128]

(d) The per capita availability of power, State-wise for 1999-2000 (provisional) is given in Annexures. [*See* Appendix 189, Annexure No. 128]

Import of Textiles from Europe

†*728. DR. D. MASTHAN:
SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published in 'The Economic Times' dated the 18th April, 2000 under the caption "Europe sees great market for clothes in India";

(b) whether it is a fact that after according relaxation for importing textiles into the country, it is expected that large quantity of textiles will be imported into the country from Europe;

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(d) the measures taken by Government to protect the indigenous textile industry?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) After the announcement of new Exim Policy on 31.3.2000, import of certain textile items would be possible without any restrictions.

In the atmosphere of liberalisation, the imports are governed by market forces subject to export-import policy in force from time to time. The quantum of textile imports from EU Member States would depend upon international

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.